

Application No. : 09/222,123  
Applicant : Ray et al.  
Filed : December 29, 1998  
TC/A.U. : 1743  
Examiner : CROSS, L.  
Docket No. : 6328-21

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

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MAIL STOP RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Request for Continued Examination mailed March 21, 2005 (RCE), please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

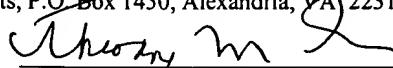
**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.

{WP224454;1}

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

3/16/05  
Date

  
Theodore M. Green

, Reg. No. 41,801